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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. XI. PITTSBURGH, FRIDAY MORNING, APRIL 24, 1874. NO. 1.

The Daily and Weekly Commercial.—NEWSPAPER DECISIONS. 1. Any one who takes a paper regularly from the Postoffice, whether directed to his name or another's, or whether he has subscribed or not—is responsible for the payment.

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FIRST EDITION.

HARRISBURG.

ENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

ill to Pay for Unauthorized Printing of Constitution.

/RITS OF ERROR IN CRIMINAL CASES

udicial Salary Bill Passes Second Reading.

EMOCRATS AGAIN REFUSE TO CONFIRM NEW JUDGES.

MEMBER CHARGES AN ATTEMPT AT BRIBERY.

O THANKS FOR PRESIDENT GRANT.

r. Joseph Again in the Chair.

pecial to Pittsburgh Press.

HARRISBURG, April 23, 1874.

SENATE.

The bill for the protection of bottlers was reported from committee.

Mr. Reid in place a bill authorizing ie payment of newspapers that published ie new Constitution without the proper der.

The following bills passed finally:

An act for the protection of fish.

An act to provide for the review by the upreme Court of certain criminal cases.

An act authorizing counties, cities, &c., enter into contracts with railroad companies which enter their limits, whereby ney may relocate, change or elevate their oads.

The Democratic Senators again refused confirm the judicial appointments. The udges' Salary bill was under consideraon on second reading.

In the afternoon session, the Governor ominated all the judges rejected, and so Henry Hice, Esq., for Beaver county.

Mr. McClure read in place a bill for the ublication of the acts of the Assembly.

The Senate resumed consideration of the udges' Salary bill, as amended. The bill assed second reading. It gives the Supreme Court Judges seven thousand dolars; Judges of District and Common Pleas ourts in Philadelphia and Allegheny five housand dollars; the President Judge of aughin county, five thousand dollars: udges of Orphans' Courts now or hereafter established, the same as the Common leas Judges in their respective counties.

HOUSE.

The House reconsidered the vote on ouse bill No. 182, and, after considerable debate, passed the same. It was relative limitations to actions. It was charged hat the bill was general in form, but intended to cover a special case in the Hazleon coal regions.

Mr. Allen, of Dauphin, tried to defeat it y saying that he had been offered five housand dollars' worth of stock for his ote.

Mr. Webb said that alone should defeat he bill.

Mr. Cross said there was too much smoke bout the bill for him to favor it.

The bill passed—49 to 40.

The afternoon session was occupied principally by the reading of the bill, of fifty-seven sections, regulating cities.

A motion to suspend the rules and pass a esolution of thanks to President Grant for is veto of the inflation bill, failed of the ecessary two-thirds majority.

At five o'clock the House got very noisy, Mr. Josephs in the chair. Members inulged in flinging packages from one side f the hall to the other in a disgraceful manner, when Mr. Strauhan got in a motion to adjourn.

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.

HARRISBURG, April 22, 1874.

The House spent the entire day, both sessions, in discussing the bill to so amend the ocal Option law as to authorize brewers and istillers to sell at retail in their respective ounties.

When the House met, in the morning, it was owded in every part, the crusaders from ittsburgh being present in force, and a large rowd to look at them, their presence being as much a curiosity as a circus or menagerie. The ill came up as the first business in order, and as friends were willing, awed, apparently, by he demonstration, to postpone it for the present, but its opponents were not wise enough to orth the willingness thus shown. Mr. oner, of Westmoreland, moved to postpone or the present. The effect of the motion would ave been to take the bill off the orders, and to ut it beyond the reach of a mere majority for ome time to come. The opponents of the bill, owever, had an idea that they could kill it, nd they voted in a body against the motion to ostpone, so as to bring the bill up on its merits. The vote resulted yeas 35, nays 58, some f the more shrewd friends of the bill voting ith its opponents against postponement.

This was the blunder of the day. The friends f the bill immediately rallied their forces, and succeeded in voting down all motions to ostpone or recommit. The first vote taken, on motion to recommit, resulted yeas 36, nays 7, showing a clear majority for the bill, which was maintained throughout. After five hours f debate and struggle, the bill passed first reading—yeas 53, nays 37.

The crusaders naturally felt disappointed nd disheartened at the result, and I symathized with them, having often been in a similar predicament. It is a pity that their onductors on the floor were not smart enough o act on the maxim of war—build bridges for lying enemy. When the friends of the bill frowned, a disposition to run away from it, at he opening of the session, their flight should ave been helped, not impeded.

The bill, it is well understood, cannot pass he Senate and the wisdom of pressing it, in he House, is inscrutable, as many members ow, for some people, but it can hardly accomplish more.

The Senate had but one session, but passed hirteen bills finally, and four were amended n third reading and laid over to be printed. This is a big day's work. Where the Tax bill ame up, Mr. Wallace made another effort to ip the bituminous coal interest. He offered n amendment to make the tax three cents per on on anthracite coal and one cent per ton on bituminous, alleging that 8 ton of anthracite ras worth three of bituminous. The vote was to 26, and the bill passed finally—yeas 31, ays 9.

Mr. Rutan called up the report of the Conference Committee on Senate bill No. 34, an act xing the compensation of the members of the eneral Assembly and the number, duties and ompensation of the officers and employees hereof. The report was agreed to by a vote of 0 yeas to 10 nays.

Mr. Wallace moved to reconsider the vote by hich Senate bill No. 10 for establishing new ounties in this Commonwealth, was defeated. greed to by a vote of nays 99 yeas, and the ill was referred to the Committee on New ounties.

Mr. Davis read in place the following bill, entitled a "Joint resolution directing the Attorney General to prosecute certain bankers and brokers in this Commonwealth":

WHEREAS, The General Assembly of Pennsylvania has just appropriated sixteen hundred dollars for the purpose of paying the expenses of the House Committee for investigating the attempted bribery of the Legislature on the part of certain banks and bankers of this Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, That investigation clearly demonstrated that certain large and influential banks and banking institutions of the city of Philadelphia and other parts of this Commonwealth did send checks with the avowed and expressed purpose of bribing the Legislature; therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met, That the Attorney General be and he is hereby directed to proceed immediately against all said brokers and banking institutions thus implicated.

One of the parties proposed to be reached under this resolution is Mr. Joseph Patterson, President of the Western bank of Philadelphia, whom President Grant proposes to appoint Secretary of the Treasury. He is alleged to have contributed $5,000 to the cash fund, as requested, to a fund whose only object could be to corrupt the Legislature and through bribery to pass a bill repealing the Usury laws; and Mr. Davis proposes to subject the guilty parties, however they may be, to indictment and trial therefor. It is a singular spectacle, to say the least, to see the President selecting for his cabinet officer a man against whom such a legislative indictment is pending. Patterson's brother-in-law, Secretary Mr. A. J. Drexel, is also understood to be included in the object of the resolution.

The following bills on third reading were disposed of as stated:

To authorize the counties, cities, towns or townships of this State, respectively, to enter into contracts with railroad companies, whose roads enter their limits, whereby said companies may relocate, change or elevate their roads, and for that purpose the said authorities shall have power to do all such acts as may be necessary and proper to effectually carry out such contracts, and any such contracts made by any railroad company or companies as aforesaid, with said authorities or either of them, are hereby fully ratified and confirmed. Amended and laid over.

House bill for the abandonment and discontinuance of the use and possession of the State powder magazine in the city of Philadelphia, and authorizing and empowering the sale of the property purchased for the erection of another magazine. Amended and laid over.

To enable railroad companies better to secure the safety of persons and property, and to increase their facilities and capacity for the transportation of goods and property. Amended and laid over.

House bill to provide for the publication of the ninth volume of the transactions of the State agricultural Society. Amended and laid over.

The following bills passed finally:

An act passed in pursuance of notice given according to law, to repeal an act, approved April 16, A. D. 1870, entitled An act to vacate parts of Second street, Munroe street and High street, in the town of Port Perry, Allegheny county.

House bill relative to appeals from the judgments of aldermen and justices of the peace in the several cities and counties of this Commonwealth.

Supplement to an act entitled An act to authorize the formation and regulation of railroad corporations.

To allow the homestead of the value of six hundred dollars, and certain personal property for the use of the family, to be exempt from levy and sale.

To authorize the issuing of letters-patent to certain corporations.

To authorize the Secretary of the Commonwealth and Deputy Secretary of the Commonwealth to administer oath or affirmations.

Making an appropriation to the Allegheny County Society for Alleviating the Miseries of Public Prisons.

To regulate damages pending a writ of error and the costs accruing thereon.

Making an appropriation of $2,000 toward the improvement of the Susquehanna river, between Shamokin dam and Harrisburg.

House bill, A joint resolution to pay expenses of special committee appointed to investigate the authorship of certain documents sent to banks and bankers throughout the State.

House bill to extend to the county of Union the third proviso to section one of an act to amend and consolidate the several acts relating to game and game fish, approved the first day of May, A. D. 1878, which reads as follows: "*Provided*, That so much of this section as prohibits the running of deer with dogs shall not apply to the counties of Centre, Clinton, Fayette, Schuylkill and Wyoming."

To provide for a geological survey of the State.

House bill to establish separate Orphans' Courts for counties of over 150,000 inhabitants.

The bill of Mr. Playford, "to enable railroad companies better to secure the safety of persons and property, and to increase their facilities for transportation, etc.," as introduced, gave to all railroad companies the power to enter upon and take any lands necessary for building additional turn-outs, sidings, roundhouses, turn-tables, depots, car shops, machine shops, and other structures. Mr. Albright moved to strike out "depots, car shops, machine shops and other structures," which Mr. Playford resisted, but the amendment carried, 15 to 11, as well as some other amendments, to which Mr. Playford did not object.

The supplement to the Free Railroad law, reduces the amount of cash capital, per mile, to $5,000, and otherwise amends that law so as to make it practicable to charter roads under it. These were all the amendments thought to be necessary to that law at present.

The Homestead bill, as it goes to the House, exempts $600 worth of property from execution, besides $200 of personal property and $100 of tools or implements. It is an over-liberal bill, as it stands, and will hardly pass the House in that shape.

The Orphans' Court bill provides for Orphans' Courts as hitherto, in all counties except Philadelphia, Allegheny and Luzerne, and separate courts in those three counties. There are to be two judges in Philadelphia, and one each in the other counties. It is an entirely new bill, substituted by the Senate for the House bill.

The Geological Survey bill was warmly opposed by Mr. McKinley, but went through—25 to 8.

SPECIAL.

SUBMERGED LOUISIANA.

Great Suffering of the People---Starvation and Death by Drowning---The Overflowed Districts---Piteous Calls for Aid.

NEW ORLEANS, April 23.—The Governor to-day received a letter from Charenton, St. Mary's parish, which says among the many sufferers by the recent overflowthe those who have lived on are east side of Bayou Teche, or Bayou Chenez, Bayou Pigeon, on the shores of Grand Lake and Lake Chicot, all of which districts are now submerged, leaving some three hundred families in a state of utter destitution. General M. Jeff. Thompson, Chief State Engineer, returned to-day from the upper coast. He states that the storm which commenced on Thursday of last week and continued until Sunday, caused the crevasses on the west side of the river to increase rapidly in width. The crevasse near Port Hudson, at Longwood and Virginia plantation, is now three-quarters of a mile wide, though only about three feet deep, the levee being a very small one, from three to four feet in height. The crevasse heretofore reported as having occurred in Morganza Bend, below New Texas Landing, is in what is known as Van Pelt Morganza levee, between the original Morganza levee and the Grand levee. The break is now about 4,000 feet wide in the new levee, which was about 13 feet high. The flow of water through this is checked by the old levee in front, and a dense growth of cottonwood between the two levees. In the old levee there are four breaks aggregating about eight hundred feet. The Hickey crevasse, below Baton Rouge, is now fifteen hundred feet wide and seven deep, the water passing through at a velocity of eight miles an hour. General Thompson reports another crevasse at Lakeside plantation, Pointe Coupee parish. He states that about twenty sugar plantations have been covered by water from Hickey's, and that hundreds of poor families living on the bayous have been drowned out. The Bonnet Carre crevasse is now seven hundred feet wide, and probably ten feet deep in the center, where the levee is entirely gone and the water is cutting a channel. The McCullen crevasses below Baton Rouge will probably be closed in a few days. Though these breaks are comparatively small, water from them has already covered many large plantations and driven out the poor people living behind them. A gentleman who reached this city to-day from the Florida parishes, states that the Tangepahon, Tickfaw and Amite rivers were swollen by rains from Thursday to Sunday, completely overflowing their banks and spreading over the country on either side for miles, the people fleeing to the higher lands. It is estimated that the water is three feet higher than ever before known. The Amite river rose very rapidly. Several children are reported drowned in the streets of Port Vincent, which was overflowed. The flat country of St. Helena, Livingston, Tangepahon, Washington, St. Tammany and East Feliciana parishes is flooded for miles. The *Times* says a gentleman from the upper coast gives a most appalling description of the condition of the people who happened to live in the district overflowed by the Hickey crevasse. He reports the loss less than twenty splendid sugar plantations have been submerged from that source already. That, however, was nothing compared to the sufferings of the people on Sunday last. The gentleman witnessed a large number of persons wading their way out of the torrents of water which passed through that region, among them were women in the water up to their armpits, holding their infants above their heads, and it was reported that some had been floated away on the rushing tide with their little ones in their arms. Bayou Grosse Tete advices state that there is now three to four feet of water on the east side of the bayou and it is expected that the water will overflow the west side. The water is backing up Bayou Plaquemineas far as the Dardenies plantation, and will probably reach the town of Bayou Grula, on the Mississippi river. Mayor Wiltz has been applied to for immediate relief to be sent to the Grosse Tete country. The recent rain continues the floods in the Ouachita and Red river valleys.

Check to Oil Producing.

CLEVELAND, April 23.—A meeting of oil producers was held at Petrolia, Pa., to-day, at which it was agreed to stop all wells starting or producing for a period of ninety days from Saturday, the 25th inst. Owing to the large production for the last year, prices became so low that the ruin was caused of many producers who had labored for years in developing the oil regions.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

The steamship Scandinavian, from Liverpool, has arrived.

The steamer Frisia, from Hamburg, has arrived at New York.

Vice President Wilson left Boston last night for Washington.

The Women's State Temperance Convention adjourned *sine die* last night at Cincinnati.

Rev. Henry Slicer, D.D., late Presiding Elder of the Baltimore Conference, died in that city yesterday, aged seventy-four.

Over three thousand dollars have been subscribed at the New York Cotton Exchange for the sufferers at New Orleans.

The French Minister of Marine announces that a rigid investigation has been ordered in the case of the steamship L'Amerique.

A petition is in circulation in Boston, inviting General Butler to deliver an address on the financial question on Monday evening.

The Merchants' Association and Chamber of Commerce of Milwaukee yesterday passed resolutions of thanks to the President for his late veto.

The ice has all moved out from between Mackinaw Island and Point St. Ignace, and it was expected the straits would be entirely cleared by last night.

From Tennessee northeastward over the Ohio Valley and the Lower Lake region, winds shifting to easterly and southerly, with clear or partly cloudy weather, are the probabilities for to-day.

At yesterday's session of the National Academy of Science, in Washington, Professor F. A. H. Barnard, President of Columbia College, was elected Foreign Secretary, *vice* Professor Agassiz, deceased.

The National Board of Underwriters, in session in New York, representing more than seventy-five millions of insurance capital, yesterday passed a resolution of thanks to President Grant for his veto of the inflation bill.

The Ohio Constitutional Convention yesterday reconsidered the Judicial article and amended it so as to include the proposition of Judge Hoadley to elect Supreme Judges the first time on the proportional plan, no voter being allowed to vote for more than three candidates; also Mr. Voris' amendment to vacate the office of any Judge found drunk on the bench or during the term of court. Article was then adopted—yeas sixty-five, nays thirty-five.

A PALADILHE relates that foxes are tormented by fleas, and when the infliction becomes unbearable they gather a mouthful of moss, and slowly walk backwards into the nearest stream until only the mouth is left above the surface of the water. The fleas meanwhile take refuge on the little island of moss, and when the fox is satisfied that they have all embarked, he opens his mouth, and the moss drifting away with its little freight, the wily animal regains the bank, evidently satisfied at his freedom from his tormentors.

XLIII. CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 23, 1874.

SENATE.

Mr. SCOTT introduced a bill supplementary to the act to incorporate the Texas Pacific Railroad Company, and to aid in the construction of the road. Referred.

Mr. MERRIMON moved that the Senate proceed to the consideration of the bill referring the cotton claims of R. M. and Stephen A. Douglass to the Court of Claims. Rejected.

Mr. DAVIS introduced a bill to reduce the tax on the circulation of State banks to an amount equal to that paid by national banks. He said the tax on the national bank circulation was one per cent., and that on the State bank circulation ten per cent., which practically prevented any circulation of the latter class. He saw no reason why national banks should have an advantage over State banks, ten to one. This enormous tax was probably adopted as a war measure, but as peace reigned now, he saw no use in continuing it. The circulation of State banks would be a measure of great relief to the South and West. He gave notice that at an early day he would ask the Senate to take up and pass the bill reported from the Finance Committee, to withdraw national bank circulation from those States having an excess, and distribute it in the States having less than their proportion, with the amendment submitted by him to withdraw fifty millions, instead of twenty-five, as the committee reported. The President, in his veto, referred to the proposed increase as one hundred millions, but he (Davis) thought it was ninety millions—forty-four millions legal tenders and forty-six millions in national bank notes. The bill was referred to the Finance Committee.

The Senate then resumed consideration of the bill to enable Mennonites of Russia to effect a permanent settlement on public lands of the United States.

Messrs. THURMAN and SARGENT opposed the passage, and Mr. TIPTON, of Nebraska, spoke in favor thereof.

Pending the discussion, the morning hour expired and the unfinished business being the Louisiana bill, Mr. WINDOM moved that it be laid aside informally.

Mr. HAMLIN gave notice that, as soon as the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. Pearson) should have concluded his speech on the Louisiana bill, he would move to lay the whole subject on the table.

Mr. CARPENTER said that after all Senators who desired had spoken, he would ask the indulgence of the Senate to reply to some arguments, and would occupy about an hour. He hoped debate would not be choked off.

Mr. THURMAN said he desired to submit some remarks, but had not found time yet to prepare them, on account of pressing committee duties imposed upon him.

Mr. HAMLIN said further debate on this subject would do no good one way or other, as Senators had become tired of it and always left the Chamber when the matter came up. He had at one time noticed that there were but seven Senators in their seats as a set speech upon the Louisiana bill was being made. He thought when a debate reached that point, to drive Senators out of the Chamber, it was not calculated to enlighten any one.

Mr. CARPENTER said perhaps Senators went out for reflection.

Mr. HAMLIN—Yes, and I think their reflections are in this manner: "Together, let us reason out what I have heard half a dozen times from half a dozen Senators." [Laughter.]

Mr. MORRILL, of Vermont, gave notice that he would submit an amendment to the Mennonite bill, that any sale or assignment of land reserved under the provisions of this act to any person, within five years of the date of such reservation, who is not known as an immigrant from Russia, belonging to the sect which is commonly called "Mennonites," shall be absolutely void and of no effect, and the land sold or assigned shall be open to pre-emption or sale in the same manner as any other public lands.

After some further discussion,

Mr. WINDOM withdrew his motion to lay aside the Louisiana bill.

The Senate then resumed consideration of the Louisiana bill, and Mr. MERRIMON addressed the Senate as to the power of the general government over States.

Before concluding his argument, Mr. MERRIMON yielded for a motion to adjourn, which was agreed to, and the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.

Mr. SOUTHARD offered a resolution instructing the Committee on Banking and Currency to inquire and report the reason why twenty-five millions of national bank currency was authorized to be withdrawn from States having more than their proportion, and why not been withdrawn and distributed, under the provisions of the act of May 12, 1870, and what further legislation is necessary to carry that result. Referred to the Committee on Banking and Currency.

After the remark by Mr. MAYNARD, that the committee had already the subject under consideration, Mr. BECK offered a resolution calling for information on the same subject from the Secretary of the Treasury. Referred.

Mr. HOLFORD introduced a bill providing that the tax on State banks shall not be other or greater than the tax on national banks. Same reference.

The House then took up the bill reported yesterday from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, concerning the citizenship and rights of United States citizens in foreign countries.

Mr. ORTH, a member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, addressed the House in advocacy of the bill, and expressed his surprise at the ungenerous attack made upon it yesterday by Mr. COX, another member of the committee. That attack had, he said, been based upon three grounds: First, that the bill detracted from the value of American citizenship; second, that it would tend to discourage immigration, and third, that it sought to engraft on the American statute book the principles of the feudal system. He declared that if the bill were properly liable to any of these objections, no member of the committee would have favored it, much less agreed to report it to the House for favorable action. One objection was to that clause of the bill which declares as not subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, naturalized citizens who may by the terms of any treaty be regarded as having resumed their original nationality. What reasonable objection could there be to that? The naturalized citizen who returned to the country of his birth and who by virtue of treaty stipulations denationalized himself thereby, did so by his own voluntary act. But the greatest objection made by some German journals in this country, to the third clause of the bill which declares as not subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, naturalized citizens who, on returning to their native country, may be convicted of offenses against the laws of that country committed prior to their arrival in the United States. He claimed, and proved by reference to treaties, that that clause was only declaratory of the existing treaties with Austria, Bavaria, Belgium, Hesse, the North German Union, and Sweden and Norway. The only objection to putting that clause in the bill, was as a notification to naturalized citizens that in choosing to return to their former homes, they rendered themselves amenable to the laws of their native country and that the United States Government could not protect them. This clause, however, might be struck out of the bill as superfluous, because the question was already governed by treaty stipulations. Mr. Orth alleged that Cox's objection were made simply for the purpose of firing the German heart than of elucidating the principles of the bill or seeking to amend it.

The morning hour expired and the bill went over.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. WOODFORD in the chair, on the Legislative, Executive and Judicial appropriation bill. On the motion to strike out the paragraph for salaries of officers of the government of the District of Columbia, an angry personal discussion took place between Messrs. Brown, of Kentucky, and Starkweather, of Connecticut; the former complaining of the latter's action in having inserted in the act published in the *Record* some weeks ago, a letter written by Mr. Brown in the early days of the rebellion, counseling the shooting of a man in Kentucky who would join the Union army; and Mr. BROWN retaliated by reading to the House Mr. Starkweather's letter to Huntington, cashier of the First National bank of Washington, asking for money with which to defray the expenses of his election.

Mr. BROWN, having read Mr. Starkweather's letter read from the clerk's desk, went on to say that its author was blessed with a thrifty patriotism, and always kept his eye on the main chance. He denied that in his speech on the Civil Rights bill (to which Starkweather's speech was in reply) he had said anything, as was alleged, disrespectful to the President of the United States or of dead Union soldiers, whom he had always honored for their heroism, just as he honored the courage and manhood displayed on the other side. He understood that much contained in Mr. Starkweather's speech had not been uttered on the floor, so that that gentleman showed a disposition to publish it and circulate it under by stealth. He (Brown) wanted the people of his district and State to understand that the man who had misrepresented him and arraigned him was the author of that letter. He did not know which most to admire—the insolence of the Dogberry or the morals of the Peckniff.

Mr. STARKWEATHER replied to Mr. Brown. He declared that there was nothing in his (Starkweather's) speech as printed in the *Record* which he had not stated on the floor of the House. He had not read Mr. Brown's letter, but he had stated that it was stated that it would have if printed if the gentleman complained of Mr. Starkweather's having published that letter. He should a thousand times more complain of himself for having written it. That was a stain which he (Brown) could never wipe out. He (Starkweather) had felt bound to call attention to it on account of the speech of the gentleman from Kentucky in eulogy of a man who had abandoned the position of Vice President of the United States and gone over to the rebellion. As to his (Starkweather's) letter to Huntington, he explained the circumstances under which it was written. Huntington, an ardent Republican, had been made Treasurer of the Republican National Committee, had some time previously offered to contribute towards paying the expenses of the election in Connecticut, or that his own election if he were a candidate. He had not then expected to be a candidate, but his friends at home had nominated him, and that offer was renewed, for a third term and being, therefore, against the custom in that district for years, he (Starkweather) caused a division in the party and consequently diminished his chances of election. Under these circumstances, he had written the letter cited to Huntington about which so much had been said. That was all that there was in it. It had not the remotest connection with the Board of Public Works or with the District government.

Mr. BROWN made a rejoinder to Mr. Starkweather, and was indulging in an eulogium on General Breckenridge, when he was interrupted by points of order which, amid great noise, confusion and uproar, were decided against him.

Mr. STARKWEATHER then offered a formal amendment so as to strike out Mr. Brown's with his remarks, but Mr. BROWN said that he declined any such courtesy, and would let the "veiled jade wince."

This closed the personal altercation, and the committee proceeded a little more than an hour with the consideration of the bill. The committee rose, having disposed of seven pages of the bill.

Mr. TYNER, from the Committee on Appropriations, reported the Legislative appropriation bill. Referred to Committee of the Whole. The bill appropriates $5,653,291, of which $5,-634,342 is to come out of the Treasury, the rest being derived from postal revenues. For steamship service to China and Japan, $500,000; to Brazil, $150,000; and to the Sandwich Islands, $75,000.

The House then took recess till half-past seven, the evening session to be for the consideration of the Legislative Appropriation bill.

At the evening session, the House spent two and a half hours in Committee of the Whole on the Legislative, Executive and Judicial appropriation bill. On the motion to strike out the paragraph for salaries of officers of the government of the District of Columbia, an angry personal discussion took place between Messrs. Brown, of Kentucky, and Starkweather, of Connecticut; the former complaining of the latter's action in having inserted in the act published in the *Record* some weeks ago, a letter written by Mr. Brown in the early days of the rebellion, counseling the shooting of a man in Kentucky who would join the Union army; and Mr. BROWN retaliated by reading to the House Mr. Starkweather's letter to Huntington, cashier of the First National bank of Washington, asking for money with which to defray the expenses of his election.

Mr. BROWN, having read Mr. Starkweather's letter read from the clerk's desk, went on to say that its author was blessed with a thrifty patriotism, and always kept his eye on the main chance. He denied that in his speech on the Civil Rights bill (to which Starkweather's speech was in reply) he had said anything, as was alleged, disrespectful to the President of the United States or of dead Union soldiers, whom he had always honored for their heroism, just as he honored the courage and manhood displayed on the other side. He understood that much contained in Mr. Starkweather's speech had not been uttered on the floor, so that that gentleman showed a disposition to publish and circulate it under by stealth. He (Brown) wanted the people of his district and State to understand that the man who had misrepresented him and arraigned him was the author of that letter. He did not know which most to admire—the insolence of the Dogberry or the morals of the Peckniff.

Mr. STARKWEATHER replied to Mr. Brown. He declared that there was nothing in his (Starkweather's) speech as printed in the *Record* which he had not stated on the floor of the House. He had not read Mr. Brown's letter, but he had stated that it was stated that it would have if printed if the gentleman complained of Mr. Starkweather's having published that letter. He should a thousand times more complain of himself for having written it. That was a stain which he (Brown) could never wipe out. He (Starkweather) had felt bound to call attention to it on account of the speech of the gentleman from Kentucky in eulogy of a man who had abandoned the position of Vice President of the United States and gone over to the rebellion. As to his (Starkweather's) letter to Huntington, he explained the circumstances under which it was written. Huntington, an ardent Republican, had been made Treasurer of the Republican National Committee, had some time previously offered to contribute towards paying the expenses of the election in Connecticut, or that his own election if he were a candidate. He had not then expected to be a candidate, but his friends at home had nominated him, and that offer was renewed, for a third term and being, therefore, against the custom in that district for years, he (Starkweather) caused a division in the party and consequently diminished his chances of election. Under these circumstances, he had written the letter cited to Huntington about which so much had been said. That was all that there was in it. It had not the remotest connection with the Board of Public Works or with the District government.

Mr. BROWN made a rejoinder to Mr. Starkweather, and was indulging in an eulogium on General Breckenridge, when he was interrupted by points of order which, amid great noise, confusion and uproar, were decided against him.

Mr. STARKWEATHER then offered a formal amendment so as to strike out Mr. Brown's with his remarks, but Mr. BROWN said that he declined any such courtesy, and would let the "veiled jade wince."

This closed the personal altercation, and the committee proceeded a little more than an hour with the consideration of the bill. The committee rose, having disposed of seven pages of the bill.

Mr. TYNER, from the Committee on Appropriations, reported the Legislative appropriation bill. Referred to Committee of the Whole. The bill appropriates $5,653,291, of which $5,-634,342 is to come out of the Treasury, the rest being derived from postal revenues. For steamship service to China and Japan, $500,000; to Brazil, $150,000; and to the Sandwich Islands, $75,000.

The House then took recess till half-past seven, the evening session to be for the consideration of the Legislative Appropriation bill.

At the evening session, the House spent two and a half hours in Committee of the Whole on the Legislative Appropriation bill. There was some discussion about the franking privilege, on the motion to strike out the item for postage stamps for the Interior Department, which motion prevailed. No other matter of public interest was discussed.

The railroad employees on the Louisville Short Line struck yesterday, on account, it is said, of the company being behind in the payment of salaries. Rumors are current that the strikers are letting the water out of the tanks and tearing up the track.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

Caucus of Republican Inflationists.

LOGAN AND MORTON DISCUSS THE VETO.

The Guns Not to Be Deserted.

LUGUBRIOUS MESSAGE FROM KANSAS.

Views of Members of the House.

West and Southwest Disappointed.

THE VETO LIKELY TO PROLONG THE SESSION OF CONGRESS.

Mexico's Claim for Twenty-four Millions Disallowed.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 23, 1874.

Caucus of Senatorial Inflationists.

A caucus of Republican Senators in favor of inflation, was held after the adjournment of the Senate to-day, in the Vice President's room. Extra diligence was used to keep the affair entirely secret. The Democratic Senators who voted for inflation were not invited to participate, because, in the language of one of those present, "We regard this matter as a family affair." The conference lasted a long time, and nearly all of those of the Republican faith who voted for inflation were present. It is understood that Senator Logan was the most outspoken of all who participated in the deliberation. He said the message of the President was entirely devoid of argument, and that General Grant had made himself the slave of the capitalists of the country and the stock jobbers of Wall street. Remarks were also made by Mr. Ferry, of Michigan, Sherman, Morton and several others, indicating was that the inflationists should stand by their guns. Senator Morton was firm in the opinion that all those who voted for the bill should stand together, but from his expressions it is safe to say that he will take no personal issue with the President. Senator Logan declared (laughing over, and it is believed that when the matter comes up for discussion he will comment in unmeasured terms on the President's veto message. Senator Logan has received numerous telegrams on the subject of the President's veto, including one from Indianapolis to the effect that a mass meeting, an indignation meeting will be gotten up in that city. To-night he received a dispatch from Governor Osborne, of Kansas, that the Republican party of the West is in consternation.

Congressmen Interviewed on Finance.

The correspondent of the COMMERCIAL called upon members of the House to-day and made inquiries with regard to the effect of the President's veto of the Financial bill. The first member met was a Congressman from New England, who predicted that the veto would result in a disruption of parties. He approved what had been done by the Executive, but said the feeling in the West and Southwest was so intense that it might array those sections against the party. An advocate of the Senate bill, and a decided inflationist, was next approached, and he was asked, "What course will you now pursue?" The reply was that they did not know exactly what to do, but they would await future developments; they desire to see what action the Senate will take on the House bill, which provides for free banking. The statement made above, that a large number of bills would be introduced, was indorsed by the member referred to. He adds that there is a sentiment in the House in favor of passing the Appropriation bill and then adjourning, leaving with the President, entirely, the responsibility of non-legislation on the finances. This proposition, it is believed, however, cannot find many supporters, as the Western members, especially, and those who represent granger interests will insist upon some definite action. It is believed that the veto will prolong the session.

Mexican Claim Rejected.

Sir Edward Thornton, acting as umpire for the American and Mexican Claims Commission, has rejected the claim of twenty-four million dollars, preferred by the Mexican government against the United States for Indian depredations in the provinces of Sonora and Chihuahua.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 23, 1874.

IMPORTANT RAILROAD CASE DECIDED.

The Supreme Court has decided the case of the North Missouri Railroad Company vs. Maguire, affirming the judgment of the Supreme Court of Missouri, and holding that the State had not relinquished its right to tax the property of the road, and that, therefore, the plea complained of did not impair any obligation of contract on the part of the State. Justice Clifford delivered the opinion. The Chief Justice dissented.

SECRETARY RICHARDSON'S RUMORED RESIGNATION.

Secretary Richardson was to-day interrogated with regard to the rumor prevalent for some days past, that he was to be appointed to the vacant judgeship in the Court of Claims, but from his response it appears that the office has not yet been tendered him. The Secretary contemplates an absence from the city for the benefit of his health, which is somewhat impaired by close attention to official business. Rumors continue to prevail of his intimacy from the cabinet, but they cannot be traced directly to an official source. Members of Congress of both parties, however, confidently say that there is no doubt he will retire, and that this is a mere question of time. In this connection some parties assert that it is not improbable that a foreign mission will be offered him, as there will soon be two vacancies—one at Berlin and the other at Vienna. In view of the reported probable resignation of Judge Richardson, several Senators have openly declared that whoever may be appointed as his successor will undergo the close scrutiny of the Senate.

NATIONAL BANK CURRENCY.

The Comptroller of the Currency states that at this date four million dollars of the three hundred and fifty-four millions national bank currency remains unissued.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, April 23, 1874.

LIVINGSTONE MEMORIAL MEETING.

A memorial meeting of the American Geographical Society was held this evening in the Academy of Music, in commemoration of the life and achievements of the late Dr. Livingstone, long an honorary member of the society. The platform was draped in mourning, and at the back was a map of Africa, topped by the portrait of the celebrated explorer, the whole surrounded by folds of crepe. The meeting was largely attended. Among those on the platform were Hon. Peter Cooper, Hon. C. M. Bidwell, Prof. Roswell, D. Hitchcock, Cyrus W. Field, Henry Grinnell and others. Chief Justice Charles P. Daly presided, and brief addresses of eulogy were delivered by Henry Ward Beecher, Rev. Drs. Noah H. Schenck and William Adams and Dr. Isaac I. Hays. Dirges were played at intervals by a military band.

FEARFUL DEATH OF A BRIDE.

Last night Belle Palmer Wheeler, of East Meadow, Long Island, met with an awful death. She had just been married, and shortly after the conclusion of the marriage ceremony was placed in a light carriage by her husband, who was preparing to follow her home when some person fired off a gun in close proximity to the horse's head, as a parting salute to the young couple. The animal took fright, broke from his fastenings and ran down the street. Attempting to round a short curve, the carriage was overturned, throwing the young lady to the ground. As she had become entangled in the lines, she could not extricate herself and was dragged over the rough and stormy road for half a mile. When friends reached her, they found her head almost torn from her body, every limb broken in a number of places and the whole body bruised and lacerated in a manner impossible to describe.

CRIMINAL RECORD.

Fort Wayne Personals—Perjury and Horse Stealing.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

FORT WAYNE, IND., April 23, 1874.

E. G. Coverdale was to-day bound over in the sum of five hundred dollars for his appearance before the Criminal Court, to answer a charge of perjury. When the decision was announced, the crowd, excepting the female portion, broke out into wild applause.

Perry Smith, who had been convicted at the recent Criminal Court of horse stealing and sentenced to five years' imprisonment, had a new trial and was to-day acquitted.

Dealers Beware

of brands of flour represented by traveling men as being the same as my *Great White River*. The commission they get for their orders amount to a dealer's profit. J. C. Jenkins

EUROPE.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

England.

THE SOLICITOR GENERAL DULY RE-ELECTED.

LONDON, April 23.—John Holker, appointed Solicitor General, has been re-elected to Parliament from Preston.

HOUSE OF COMMONS—RE

The Commercial.

FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 1874.

THE New York SUN laments the decline of the American press. It also illustrates the decadence.

DECORATION DAY is approaching, and if the occasion is to be observed as it should be, it is time the preliminary preparations were set on foot.

THE President having vetoed the Senate Finance bill, that modest New York *Herald* will be sure to claim the result as another of its own manifold and wondrous victories.

THE Grangers, as individuals, are beginning to inquire what becomes of the millions of dollars which are paid to the National Grange. Possibly the latter is a sponge, and absorbs it.

THE *Post*, by implication, accuses General SHERMAN and the other members of the HOWARD Court of Inquiry, of a design to "whitewash" that officer "by suppressing the truth." How sad "old TECUMSEH" will feel when he learns of this!

THE steel consumers have been notified to appear and testify before the Ways and Means Committee at Washington next Tuesday, the 28th inst. Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut, New York, Ohio, and other States, will be represented. It is not probable, however, that their statements will have the effect of bringing about any reduction in the existing tariff.

A LIVELY contest over the President's late Civil Service Message is anticipated. There is, however, no reason why the matter may not be disposed of in a few minutes. Let the Civil Service Committee report an amendment to the Appropriation bill that no more money shall be appropriated for the purposes of the Commission, and then let Congress pass it without squabbling.

TAMMANY, it appears, is actually becoming comparatively orderly and respectable. Recently it had an exciting election, and, passing strange to tell, there was not so much even as a knock-down, nor a solitary pistol drawn, nor a single shillalah brought into contact with a Democratic head. Perhaps the hope entertained by some of the ultimate reformation of SATAN, may not be wholly fallacious, after all.

THE May number of the *Catholic World*, and *Lippincott's Magazine* for the same month, have each a poem entitled "Forever," which, with the exception of one or two slight verbal differences, is an exact copy of the other. What is the explanation of this extraordinary "coincidence?" Did the author contribute it to both periodicals, or has it been derived by more than a single person from a single source?

THE other day we mentioned the fact that General HOOD differed *in toto* from General JO. JOHNSTON in his estimate of the ability and services of JEFF. DAVIS, as related to the rebel Confederacy. HOOD now proposes to publish a reply to JOHNSTON's recent work on the military operations of the rebellion, and if he fails to make it uncomfortably warm for his whilom commander, we shall be considerably disappointed.

THE proprietor of the Grant Locomotive Works of Paterson, N. J. has just closed a contract with a representative of the Russian government, for the building of sixty-five anthracite coal-burning engines for use on railroads in the dominions of the Czar. There was an animated struggle between the Grant Works and the Baldwin Locomotive Works of Philadelphia for this job, but the Jerseymen secured it. It is some consolation that American artisans will do the work.

NEVADA papers have commenced prospecting for Senator SARGENT's successor. The Virginia *Chronicle* denies a rumor to the effect that Hon. CHARLES E. DE-LONG, ex-Minister to Japan, has withdrawn from the contest. It says "Mr. DE-LONG will, on his return from Washington, open a law office in this city, and will, in due time, stump the State in the interest of the Republican party, and proposes at the same time to make a winning fight for the position of United States Senator."

A LIVELY discussion continues to be kept up in the New York journals concerning the circumstances under which the America and the Europe were abandoned. The German and French papers in their comments and criticisms on the affair, as usual, the bias of their respective nationalities. Proceedings for libel against the Captain of the latter vessel have been instituted by the commander of the Greece, their object being to fully vindicate that officer from the charges which have been made against him.

THE time draws near when the great International Postal Congress will assemble at Bonn, Germany, for the purpose of discussing plans for facilitating, cheapening and simplifying the international transit of letters. The convention will meet on the first of October. Our government has officially accepted the invitation to be represented and participate in the proceedings; but, so far, no Commissioner to represent the United States has been appointed. Whoever shall be selected ought to be a man of enlarged views and ideas.

IT is affirmed that good mechanics in New York are becoming very scarce on account of intemperance on the one hand, and on another the limited number of apprentices allowed by trades unions, and that only the incessant importations from Europe or from the country districts keeps up the supply; apropos of which subject, it may be observed that the need of technical schools was never more imperative than now. The average youth now-a-days, rather than apply himself to trade-learning, aims to get his living by his wits, and oftener fails than succeeds. The far-sighted policy of German educators, in establishing technical schools, of which she now has over six hundred, devoted to architecture, mining, navigation, commerce, besides schools for the textile manufactures, all fitted with models, tools and laboratories, has deprived England of her supremacy. Yet we have quite as much at stake as England. Much of the "pauper labor" of the Old World is intelligent to a degree that puts our own to the blush. Hence, in some respects the common school system of our country is a failure, because it aims to train the mind only, instead of also the eye and the hand.

IN THE speech, somewhat famous at the time, which Rev. HENRY WARD BEECHER addressed to the members of the Evangelical Alliance on the occasion of their formal visit to Brooklyn, the Plymouth church pastor paid a handsome tribute to the worth of the foreign born element of the American people. It was not general laudation, a sweeping, comprehensive puff in the style of a demagogue, (whatever else, BEECHER is no demagogue,) but substantially a statement of fact. It was easy to perceive why Mr. BEECHER made it. He knew that he was addressing a good many gentlemen who, faithful to the traditions and prejudices of their respective countries, had no great faith in the honesty or other virtues of their own countrymen *en masse*. In Great Britain, and especially in Germany, the well educated classes, the scholars, regard the moral sense of the multitude as very low, even the clergy of the State churches very commonly holding the multitude in as much contempt as may be supposed compatible with any measure of Christian faith. Probably a large majority of the class sincerely believe that national credit and honor would almost certainly perish if left wholly in the hands of the popular masses. Of course Mr. BEECHER made no allusion to these prevalent old world ideas, but he particularly and emphatically called the attention of the Evangelical Alliance members from abroad to the fact that the schemes of our repudiationist demagogues had been put down by the aid of the foreign vote, and that the foreign element of the American population can be confidently relied upon to sustain the financial credit of the nation. The statement, we have been assured, made a profound impression.

Of this passage of Mr. BEECHER's speech we are reminded by the fact that the German Republican papers of the West, so far as we can learn, are unanimous in hostility to the disguised repudiation which is favored by some prominent Republican leaders in that section of the country. It seems that the fourteenth resolution of the Philadelphia Platform in which "repudiation in every form and in whatever disguise" is denounced as a "national crime," was written in the office of the Illinois *Staats Zeitung*, the ablest and most influential organ of German opinion in the West. Whatever other Western people may think of it, the President's late veto will receive the approval of the Western Germans. Elsewhere, of course, the Germans have been and are opposed to the bill which the President has vetoed.

THE TEXT-BOOK TROUBLE.

It is hardly possible, we suppose, for many teachers or others interested in the subject of education to think favorably of the proposed law for the constitution of a School Book Commission. Even if it were agreed that under certain circumstances such a Commission might be useful, the circumstances do not at present exist, the time has not yet come. Public education is really still in its infancy among us. However excellent our system may be in some respects, it accomplishes little in comparison with what it may reasonably be expected to accomplish when it shall have been fully developed and perfected. One of the defects under which the system now labors is the want of good text-books on several of the subjects of instruction. Of course we mean that the text-books alluded to are not good according to a high standard of excellence, according to the standard which has been nearly if not quite reached in some school books which might be mentioned, books in actual use. Competition holds out the fairest prospect of a supply for the want, and in order that competition may have its full effect there must be ample opportunities for bringing new books into use and submitting them to trial in the schools. A Commission of the kind proposed in the new law, if it did its duty with becoming rigor, would certainly interfere with these experiments, as any change in a text-book made by the Commission would apply to the entire State, and should be made with extreme caution. The Commission could hardly afford to entertain merely probable, and much less merely possible, reasons in favor of a change asserted to be a reform. At present, advantage can be taken of local circumstances to try experiments on a sufficiently extensive scale for the end in view, the testing of the worth of new books. The fact that the right of the directors of a district to change books has been outrageously abused, making it an oppression and a nuisance, is no argument against the policy. A remedy for the abuse may easily be found in the selection of directors among men of genuine character and intelligence. The people have the entire business in their own hands.

On the other hand, let the great interest be placed under the control of a central Commission, and the people may speedily find that a great mistake has been made. As the thing now stands, aggrieved parents and guardians enjoy the privilege of grumbling in the hearing of their extortioners. They can go to each one of them in succession, and say in the plainest and most candid terms what they think of their conduct. A Commission with power to select text-books for all the free schools in the State would be a body of quite imposing dignity and grandeur. Its members would be High Mightinesses, presumably capable of taking a cheerful and generally comfortable view of their own official qualifications, and therefore not prepared to regard objections or accept reproaches with meekness or patience. The "opportunities" enjoyed by them would be considerable; the school book business even now involves great pecuniary interests; these interests would be so much concerned in the action of the Commission that its members might readily make the position one of no trifling emolument. It might soon become difficult to approach them, with uncomplimentary suggestions.

Then, they might so naturally be functionaries not pre-eminently fit for their responsible duties. And if they should be mere party hacks, or men whose arduous labors in organizing primary meetings or in otherwise regulating the politics of their town ships, had utterly banished from their memories the elementary ideas and principles with which text-books have to do, the consequences might be very disagreeable and injurious to the schools of the State. These are common-place and perhaps ignoble fears, but they may not on that account be less worthy of attention. In the evolution of our political life queer things happen.

The suggestion, reduced, we believe, to the form of an addition to the law in question that the State should buy and possess the copyright of the text-books used in its schools does not strike us favorably. While the provision might guard against some evils otherwise likely to arise out of the Commission, it is open to grave objections, one of which suffices to condemn it, namely that the State has enough to do without engaging in the business of a book publisher.

The Great Army Reunion at Harrisburg.

The arrangements for the meeting of the Society of the Army of the Potomac and other army societies, and the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, to be held at Harrisburg on the 11th, 12th and 13th of May, are almost completed, and give promise of a gala time for the many veterans who are expected to attend.

The Ninth Army Corps meeting will take place on Monday, the 11th, to be followed by a banquet in the evening.

Tuesday will be occupied with the meeting of the Society of the Army of the Potomac, and those of the various corps societies. In the evening a public reception will be given by the Governor, and then will follow a banquet in honor of the Society of the Army of the Potomac.

On Wednesday the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic will convene, and in the evening the public proceedings will be closed by a banquet in honor of the delegates to the encampment. Generals Grant, Sherman, Sheridan, Hancock, Burnside, Rosecrans, Belknap, Franklin and other distinguished soldiers will be present.

A large gathering and a pleasant time may be anticipated, and an opportunity will be afforded those in attendance to see a part of the most beautiful scenery of Pennsylvania, and to observe the practical workings of some of the great industries for which the State is noted.

Excursion tickets will be issued by the various railroads leading to and from Harrisburg to attend this reunion.

ALL housekeepers have some time realized the difficulty of lighting a fire in a still, damp morning, when the chimney will not draw, and vigorous blowing proves ineffectual. Science explains the trouble as "caused by the difficulty encountered in overcoming the inertia of the long column of air in the pipe or chimney by the small column of air that can be forced up through the interstices of wood and coal, at the bottom of which the fire is kindled." This may be remedied by first lighting a few bits of shavings or paper placed upon the top; thus, by the heated air forcing itself into the chimney and establishing there an upward current, the room is kept free from the gas or smoke which is so apt to fill the room, and the fire can then be lighted from below with good success.

A LIST of the assets of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, on the last day of 1873, has been published, covering a long column, in small type, of various railroad, canal, bridge and other company bonds and shares, the par value of which aggregates $73,594,440. Over twenty-nine millions are represented in the former and over forty-four and one-half millions are represented in the shares. The exhibit, as a whole, is very ragged in credit, though the securities named are said to have cost the company but $52,692,419, and that they now pay the company its dividends and interest something in excess of four per cent. of their cost. The Directors state that there is a present and prospective additional value in these securities to the company from the traffic which the companies issuing them will contribute to the main line.

THE New York *Tribune* states that "Theodore R. Tymby, the inventor of the revolving turret battery, having had great experience in machinery for wielding heavy ordnance, is contemplating the construction of the largest telescopic lens ever made. He proposes a lens more than twice the size of that recently made by Alvin Clark for the Washington Observatory. Preparatory steps to casting a lens of five feet in diameter have been taken near Tarrytown, New York. If this experiment prove as successful as he has reason to hope, Mr. Tymby's efforts will place American astronomical science far in advance of that of other countries."

A NICE point in law was settled in New York lately before a referee, after three years' trial. Plaintiff and defendant had established a business partnership, agreeing in writing to make up the capital only in cash. Defendant, however, contributed a note for $40,000, his partner agreeing verbally. The security proved worthless, but as it had been made in good faith the referee decided for the defendant, notwithstanding the plea of plaintiff's counsel, that the provision in writing prevented the defendant from setting up verbal approval of his paying in the capital in credits.

RELENTING.

BY LOUISA BUSHNELL.

The earth is in a melting mood,
This morning of the year;
And clasped around by mists that hood,
She smiles to find herself so wooed,
With, now and then, a tear.

The topmost fastness of the hill
Has let the winter go;
The happy-hearted little rill
No longer shivers past the mill
To meadows hushed with snow.

The birds let fall their new-born dreams
Upon me from above;
And many a shadow wed with beams,
And many a wind-kissed blossom seems
To say a word for love.

What is there in this tender air
To thrill me like a dart?
It quickens places poor and bare,
And every covert sweet and fair,
Except one maiden's heart.

O, are such changeful gleams of light
Made only to beguile?
Then, I am but a foolish wight,
To be so glad because, last night,
She blessed me with a smile.

But O, when ice and snow relent,
And every coldest thing;
Might not, perchance, one more repent,
And melting into warm consent,
Flood all my heart with Spring?
—*Scribner's for May.*

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

Yokohama, Japan, is to have street cars.

Immigration is falling off seriously this year.

"A plague on both your houses!" down in Arkansas.

"What was the Bible wine?" is a leading question just now.

Eighty-two cities of Germany now boast cremation societies.

New York complains of large quantities of artificial butter being sold as the genuine article.

In Arkansas, when a man mentions "the Governor," he is immediately asked "Which?"

The recent losses of so many iron steamers will bring wooden ships into more and more favor.

Fashionables now wear boots made of kangaroo skins. They are chiefly worn at hop parties.

For the first time in many years, the Neva, in Russia, is free of ice by the middle of April.

The striking Chicago Crispins, after two months of idleness, are trying to form a co-operative society.

It is rumored that the Legislature proposes to adjourn the last of this month. Perhaps they May.

Practical operations have decided the mooted question of the existence of coal in Southern Minnesota.

Some Japanese capitalists have bought Idaho. It is only the United States storeship of that name, however.

Baltimore exalteth its horn over having the largest grain elevator in the world—of one million bushels capacity.

Brooks, of Arkansas, is a native of Ohio, where he served as a preacher in the Methodist Conference for nine years.

The lightning struck Butler's house, in Lowell, a few days ago, but not finding the General at home, left in a hurry.

Can anybody name an instance in which the Republican party has hesitated to do justice for fear of hurting the party?

The annual meeting of the National Academy of Science is in session at the Smithsonian Institution, Washington.

There are forty thousand commercial travelers in the United States, and it costs over $87,000,000 a year to keep them moving.

The body-burners of New York are in dead earnest. They have secured the passage of a bill incorporating them as a society.

The Massachusetts Legislature has just passed a bill authorizing the organization of public wash-houses for the use of the poor.

Florida justices of the peace manage to get sober enough to hold court by committing themselves to jail three days beforehand.

The American Geographical Society commemorated the public and private virtues of Dr. Livingstone last evening in New York.

The *Catholic World* detects a good omen in the fact that the transit of Venus occurs "on the festival of the immaculate Virgin Mary."

Virginia pays nineteen million dollars per annum for whisky, but cannot meet the annual interest of her debt. How high-spirited!

The Alsatian manufacturers complain bitterly of their new fellow-countrymen as customers, alleging that their dealings are not "square."

Outside of newspapers and magazines there is at present almost nothing in the way of original literature attempted in the United States.

A Boston alderman objects to having an elevator in the City Hall, on the ground that it would interfere with the ventilation of the building!

Old man Bender has been recognized at Salt Lake and will be taken to Kansas. Presently he will go on a little bender through a train-door.

One of these days we may become conscious of the existence of the "Personal" editor of the Milwaukee *Sentinel*, and use our thumb and finger.

Krupp, the great German cast-steel manufacturer, has undertaken so much work for foreign countries, that Germany is becoming indignant about it.

Washington Territory is in want of butter for home consumption, notwithstanding the vast area of grazing country, and numerous herds of cattle, all around her.

Out West the Democracy have gone to combing the hayseed out of their hair, cleaning their boots, and trying to conceal all evidence of their having been Grang ers.

The Mayor of St. Louis says "we shall gravitate, by an immutable law, to the condition of society we have fitted ourselves for while in this world." Well, we pity him.

At Fort Wayne, Indiana, the attorney for the crusaders has been arrested, charged with having committed perjury in his report accusing certain persons of selling liquor.

During the present year eighteen States will elect Governors, thirty-five Congressmen and twenty-five United States Senators, besides the vacancy yet to be filled in Louisiana.

PERSONAL.

Mrs. Charles J. Williams, who is reported to have first suggested the idea of decorating the graves of the fallen Confederate soldiers, died in Columbus, Ga., on the night of the 15th inst.

All the Washington girls are setting their caps for Senator Jones of Nevada. Jones has taken a big house, and two sisters do the honors. His mine now brings him in $125,000 a month.

A systematic gentleman of Holyoke, Mass., was united in wedlock, on Sunday last, to a young lady whom he had been training for the position of his wife ever since she was two years old.

Alexis A. de Perwinoff, an exiled Russian Count, is employed as a telegrapher at Omaha. His genuineness is vouched for by President Orton and Anson Stager, of the Western Union Telegraph Company.

The monument to the Confederate dead recently unveiled in New Orleans consists of a statue of a private soldier standing upon a pedestal, upon which are busts of Gens. R. E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson, A. S. Johnson and Leonidas Polk.

The youngest traveler on record landed from the cars in Jersey City, recently. He was less than four years of age, and had made the journey from Chicago unattended, with his ticket in his hat band and the check for his trunk in his pocket.

A saucy young widow out West said to a clerical friend who asked her, condolingly, how long her "lamented" had been dead. "I am in the honeymoon of my widowhood." She will be boasting some day about celebrating a golden wedding.

The widow of Henry R. Schoolcraft has memoralized the New York Legislature in favor of a monument to that remarkable man. He was a pioneer in geology, discovered the source of the Mississippi and other things more useful. His works on the customs and traditions of the Indians are invaluable. Mrs. Schoolcraft lives in straitened circumstances at Washington.

The story that General Schenck came home to be married is reported with much variety of detail. The lady is a handsome widow, prominent in New York fashionable society, who is a relative of the royal family of Holland, and has lived much in Europe. Her husband was a rich and snuffy old New Yorker, who died several years ago, leaving her very wealthy and, it now seems, not inconsolable.

The list of Governors in the United States Senate now includes Messrs. Clayton, of Arkansas, Buckingham, of Connecticut, Oglesby, of Illinois, Morton, of Indiana, Harvey, of Kansas, Stevenson, of Kentucky, Hamlin and Morrill, of Maine, Boutwell, of Massachusetts, Ramsey, of Minnesota, Alcorn, of Mississippi, Fenton, of New York, Anthony and Sprague, of Rhode Island, Brownlow, of Tennessee, and Boreman, of West Virginia. Governor Washburne will make the seventeenth.

FROM SAUT STE. MARIE.

The Mild Winter—Work on the Canal—To be Opened April 15th—What the Government Should Do—The Marquette and Mackinac Railroad—Prospects of the Iron Trade on Lake Superior—Ice.

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.

SAUT STE. MARIE, March 18, 1874.

Our winter is about drawing to a close, and in point of mildness it is unprecedented.

The work on the canal is well advanced, and the contractor will be ready to deliver the canal over to navigation by the middle of April. From present appearances navigation will open near that time. I have not learned what the prospects are for business, but it is generally thought that there will be less iron ore carried this year than last year.

I fear that Congress, in its retrenchment mania, will prove the old adage, "penny wise and pound foolish," so far as appropriations for the canal are concerned.

There is still an unexpended balance of $200,000 on hand, and I fear the maximum that will be appropriated will be $200,000 more, which will only about half finish the lock, let alone the balance of the work. Now in letting a part of the work no bids will be offered as low by any one as if the whole was let, as the expense for machinery for the construction of the one-half will be just as great as for the whole, and consequently the bids will be correspondingly higher. The entire work, when completed, will cost $2,000,000, and I have no doubt that several hundred thousand dollars might have been saved if the whole amount had been appropriated and let out at one time; but the American people must have a hobby, and now on one extreme or the other. One year extravagance, another penuriousness, and all on account of a periodical howl of the press about extravagance. The newspapers have been howling about extravagance all winter, and demanded that the expenditures of the government should be reduced. This is all right; but when Congress begins, the question arises, where shall be the beginning? The New York papers say, don't reduce our appropriation; Philadelphia says, leave us alone; Pittsburgh says, don't touch us, and Chicago says, we can't afford to have our appropriations cut down; so, after all the noise made by public journals by which Congressmen were frightened, *as if it was the voice of the people*, not one of them wants any retrenchment in his own vicinity, and retrenchment with them means, don't spend any money only for our neighborhood. In whatever else Congress may falter, they should not be backward in appropriating liberally for the improvement of our great water highways, as it makes a great difference to consumers as well as producers whether a vessel has sufficient water to carry 20,000 or 100,000 bushels of wheat, or 200 or 2,000 tons of coal and merchandise. Channels must be deepened and widened, and light houses must be built; and in doing this, the cheapest way is to do it with liberal appropriations well guarded. It is contemplated that a number of life-saving stations shall be erected between White Fish Point and Pictured Rocks, on Lake Superior, in which I have but little confidence. It is true that on that coast are strewn the wrecks of a number of vessels, and that many lives have been lost there; but that was before the days of Old Probabilities.

The distance from White Fish Point to Grand Island is about eighty miles, and there is a telegraph between the two places. Now if masters of vessels pay attention to weather signals on leaving either of the places, there is no need, and their seldom is, of ever being caught in a storm between these two harbors. Besides this, the expense of establishing and running the life-saving establishments would dredge a passage into Grand Marais half-way between the two places, and there, in case of storm, find one of the finest harbors on Lake Superior. I have paid particular attention to Old Prob., and I would bet on his predictions every time.

The principal question now agitating the Upper Peninsula of Michigan is, the extension of the time for the building of the Marquette and Mackinac Railroad. It must be remembered that this portion of the State has no means of reaching the balance of the State by rail, only by passing through Wisconsin and Illinois, thus cutting us off from the State capital and Detroit, our commercial center, and in this way throwing the trade to Chicago, whence also a great share of the Michigan trade is drawn from that portion of the State bordering on Lake Michigan.

There are now two railroads within about fifty miles of the Straits of Mackinaw—the Grand Rapids and Indiana, belonging to the Pennsylvania Company, and the Jackson, Lansing and Saginaw, belonging to the Michigan Central; and the object of the Marquette and Mackinac Road is to connect with these roads at the Straits, and thus form a continuous Michigan route to Marquette, without having to pass through the territory of other States—a matter of vast importance to the Upper Peninsula, but vastly greater to Detroit, as a large amount of trade would be thereby diverted from Chicago and carried where it more naturally belongs. For the building of this road the Legislature, at its last session, voted a grant of swamp lands, stipulating that it should be completed within two years; but the grant is only asked for to insure to the benefit of "grabbers." Be this as it may, it seems to me a short-sighted policy to stop the work if an appropriation of all the land on the Upper Peninsula will help build it, as it certainly is a work of great importance to the State of Michigan.

We hear a great deal said about our public domain passing into the hands of railroad monopolies, and that it should be kept for actual settlers; but with all this we see millions of acres of the most valuable lands passing into the hands of private speculators, who do nothing for the public benefit, as the railroads do. Where is the newspaper that has yet raised its voice against the sale of lands to private speculators?

The extra session of the Legislature was called for the purpose of considering the question of submitting the amended Constitution to the people, and it is a question whether the railroad will be taken into consideration. It is to be hoped the members of that body will have sagacity enough not to overlook so important a matter.

The Canadian election for M. P. is over, and the result is the defeat of the Sir John McDonald's aristocratic party and the election of what they call here the common people's candidate. It is a regular slaughter of that class, over there, who build up an aristocracy on a plug hat, a pair of gold eye-glasses and two meals a day. If they had an election every year, they would need a distillery in every township.

Our people are busy filling their ice houses. The ice is plenty, but only about twenty inches thick; last year it was nearly four feet.

A. P. H.

[The above letter, as will be seen by the date, should have appeared some time ago; but the pressure upon our columns caused it to be laid over from day to day until now. It has lost little, if any, of its interest, however.—ED. COM.]

A Curious Story.

Mr. Cyrus W. Field lately learned that the medal voted him by Congress, which was reported lost, had turned up in one of General Spinner's safes. He applied to the Secretary to exchange it for the duplicate issued to him in its stead. The Secretary sent for Gen. Spinner and requested him to make the exchange, whereupon that gentleman replied with astonishment that he had sent it to the mint to be melted up, according to the Secretary's orders. Mr. Richardson, on his side, was equally astonished, knowing that he had given no such order. Gen. Spinner produced the order signed by Richardson, which, by the initials on the upper left hand corner, was traced to a division in the Secretary's office. It turned out that the chief of this division had taken it into his head that the medal should be melted up. He accordingly had a clerk write out an order to that effect, which he presented to the Secretary for his signature, with a lot of other papers prepared by the division, which the Secretary signed—probably while some one was talking to him on business—in the customary way, without reading, taking for granted that the division to which certain matters had unavoidably been referred had prepared the proper papers. A dispatch was promptly sent to Philadelphia ordering the return of the medal. But the question remains, How many and what papers has the Secretary of the Treasury signed in the same way, at whose instance, and to what effect?

A TON is a measure which is not fixed and unalterable. Especially in the coal trade, it is subject to expansion and contraction according to circumstances. In this region it is sometimes 2,240 pounds, and at other times 2,000 pounds, whilst in New York, a recent investigation has disclosed that a "ton" of coal, when doled out to the poor, under the auspices of the Commissioners of Charities of that city, weighs but 1,600 pounds. This important fact would never have been discovered had not a subordinate of the Commissioners and the captain of a canalboat had an unfortunate dispute as to how the "surplusage" should be divided.

THE whole number of names in the roll of peers for Great Britain and Ireland in 1873 was four hundred and seventy-three, more than two-thirds of whose titles were created in the present century. The three oldest peerages date from the latter part of the thirteenth century, while four go back to the fourteenth and seven to the fifteenth century. Of the peerages of the sixteenth century there exist twelve; of the seventeenth, thirty-five, of the eighteenth, ninety-five, of the present nineteenth century, two hundred and thirty-nine.

Three brave Kentuckians recently rode up to an inoffensive man and shot him dead, having surprised him in a drunken sleep. They maintained in court that they thought it was a negro they were killing, and were thereupon acquitted. How natural!

Do Not Persecute the Body in sickness with medicines that depress the physical energies. What the sick principally need is an accession of vital strength to enable them to cope with the enemy that has assailed them. The diseased system should be sustained, toned, purified and regulated, and there is no medical preparation in existence so largely endowed with the properties required to effect these objects as Hostetter's Stomach Bitters. In ordinary practice aperient, blood-depurating, anti-bilious and sedative medicines are administered separately. In Hostetter's Bitters all these agents are combined, and act together in perfect harmony, so that undue debility and undue excitement are alike prevented, and the strength of the patient rallies while the disease is losing ground. In dyspepsia, liver complaint, chronic constipation, intermittent fevers, general weakness, and all ailments involving physical and mental depression, this pure vegetable restorative is a sovereign remedy.

Pittsburgh Bank for Savings,
NO. 61 FOURTH AVENUE, PITTSBURGH.
Assets January 1, 1873 - $778,251 56.
CHARTERED IN 1862.
Open daily from 9 to 4 o'clock, and on SATURDAY EVENINGS, from May 1st to November 1st, 7 to 9 o'clock, and from November 1st to May 1st, 6 to 8 o'clock. Interest paid at the rate of Six Per Cent. computed from the 1st and 15th of each month, and if not withdrawn compounds semi-annually, in January and July. Book of By-Laws, &c., furnished at the office.
BOARD OF MANAGERS.
GEO. A. BERRY, President. JOHN SCOTT, JAS. PARK, 2nd, Vice Presidents.
D. E. McKINLEY, Secretary and Treasurer.
A. Bradley, J. L. Graham, A. S. Bell, W. K. Nimick, John S. Dilworth, F. Rahm, G. Follansbee, Joshua Rhodes, S. H. Hartman, Robert C. Schmertz, Christopher Zug.
John H. Bailey, Solicitor.

FAMILY MEDICINES.

AMUSEMENTS THIS WEEK.

Circus, Menagerie, Knights of Pythias, and a host of others will visit Pittsburgh this week, and will visit also the Store of JOSEPH BROWNE, corner Penn and Sixth. The Largest Stock of
HAIR BRUSHES,
COMBS, PUFFS,
SACHET POWDERS,
CLOTHES, TOOTH AND NAIL BRUSHES, FINE SOAP,
IMPORTED PERFUMES,
COSMETICS AND FANCY ARTICLES GENERALLY.
Remember the Place,
JOSEPH BROWNE,
Cor. Penn Ave. and Sixth Street.

CANDIDATES.

FOR CONGRESS—
ALEX. M. WATSON
Will be a candidate for the Congressional Nomination in the next Republican Convention for the Twenty-third District. d*

FOR CONGRESS IN TWENTY-THIRD DISTRICT.
THOS. M. BAYNE
Will be a candidate for Congress in the Twenty-third District, subject to the decision of the Republican Convention. d*

DISSOLUTION.

NOTICE.

The Partnership heretofore existing between the undersigned and SAMUEL E. FRENCH, in the manufacture of Fire Brick, under the firm of
FRENCH & QUAY,
Having been dissolved by the death of Captain FRENCH, all claims against said firm will be presented, properly authenticated, for settlement, and all persons indebted thereto will make payment to us, at Beaver, Pa.
M. S. QUAY.
JOSEPH R. HARRAH, Attorney.

FURNITURE.

FURNITURE,
At Reduced Prices.
J. W. Woodwell & Sons,
97, 99 and 101 Third Ave.,
PITTSBURGH, PA.,
MANUFACTURERS OF
PARLOR, LIBRARY, CHAMBER, DINING ROOM, HALL AND OFFICE
Furniture
OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

1874.
SPRING AND SUMMER
SILK, FUR AND WOOL
HATS,
Silk and Cloth Caps,
STRAW GOODS,
Palm Leaf and Leghorn Hats,
AT
PALMER'S
Hat House
151 WOOD ST.

PAPERS.
For the Dry Goods Trade,
For the Hardware Trade,
For the Grocery Trade,
For the Glass Trade,
For the Druggist Trade,
For the Butcher Trade,
For the Building Trade,
For Canvassing Hams,
For Lining Houses,
For Roofing Houses,
For Roasted Coffee.
Paper Bags, Printing and Tea Papers.
Roofing Cement, Saturated Felt.
FRAZIER, METZGER & CO.,
MWF 32 WOOD STREET, Pittsburgh, Pa.

NAYLOR'S
PHILADELPHIA
REGALIA EMPORIUM.
MANUFACTURERS AND DEALERS IN
REGALIA and PARAPHERNALIA
FOR
Masonic, Odd Fellows, Red Men, Knights of Pythias, American Mechanic, American Protestant, and all Secret Societies.
Gold and Silver Embroideries.
Societies in Pittsburgh and Vicinity are requested to send for Price List. Orders by mail carefully attended to. Address
Charles Naylor,
MWF 54 NORTH FIFTH ST., PHILA.

THE
Superior Lumber Co.
Has now on hand a large stock of
Dry Pine and Hemlock
JOIST,
PINE, OAK AND CHESTNUT
PLANK,
BOARDS, LATHS, PICKETS, &c.,
AT THE VERY LOWEST PRICES.
OFFICE AND YARDS:
Twenty-ninth and Liberty Sts.
Mrs. HINELY & CO.'S
LADIES' AND GENT'S
Dining Rooms and Ice Cream Saloon,
No. 16 SIXTH (late St. Clair) STREET,
PITTSBURGH.
Meals at all hours. Boarding by the Day, Meal or Week. Meals sent to offices.

DRY GOODS.

A. D. McKEE.
NEW
Curtain Laces
A LARGE STOCK
AND
VERY LOW PRICES.
LATEST NOVELTIES IN
Spring Dress Goods,
Now Ready.
59 Market Street.

NEW STOCK
SPRING AND SUMMER
GOODS.
James Caldwell & Co.
Have Just Received a Very Attractive Stock of SPRING AND SUMMER GOODS, which Buyers will find well worth inspection.
BLACK ALPACAS
Mohair Lustres and Brilliantеens,
BLACK WOOL DELAINES,
TAMISE CLOTHS,
HENRIETTA CLOTHS,
ALL-WOOL AND SILK WARP CASHMERES.
BLACK HERNANIS, Pure Silk Warp.
A VERY COMPLETE ASSORTMENT OF
Fancy Dress Goods,
COMPRISING
ALPACAS, MOHAIRS,
DEBEGES, PONGEES, &c.
BLACK SILKS,
PLAIN SILKS,
STRIPE SILKS and CHECK SILKS
In Great Variety and Very Low Prices.
ENGLISH, FRENCH AND AMERICAN
Chintzes, Prints and Percales,
Shawls, Jackets and Polonaises,
Nottingham & Tamboard Lace Curtains
CLOTHS, CASSIMERES,
TWEEDS AND JEANS.
James Caldwell & Co.
118 and 120
Federal St., Allegheny.

NEW
Spring Goods
JUST OPENING,
At Very Low Prices.
SPRING PRINTS,
In Merrimack, Cocheco, Sprague, American. All the Best Makes and Newest Styles, at Prices Lower than they were ever sold.
Spring Chintzes,
In Percales, French Chintzes, Light and Dark Colored, Handsome Styles at Popular Prices.
LOW-PRICED DRESS GOODS,
The Choicest Assortment in this market, at prices from 12 1-2c to 25c per yard, some Really Good Bargains.
MEDIUM-PRICED DRESS GOODS
In Mohairs, Alpacas, Japs, Silk Warp Goods, Pure Mohair, DeBege, Empress Cloth, in New Spring Shades, Stripes, Grey Mixtures, Spring Plaids, from 25 to 50 cents, all at Prices Much Lower than they ever were.
New Goods Opening Every Day.
A. W. ERWIN & CO.,
172 and 174
FEDERAL STREET, ALLEGHENY,
AND
26 FIFTH AVENUE, PITTSBURGH.

MERCHANT TAILORS.

STILL THEY COME.
MORE NEW
Worsted Coatings,
JUST RECEIVED BY
HENRY SMITH & SONS,
MERCHANT TAILORS,
98 WYLIE AVENUE.
C. A. MUHLANBRING,
Draper and Fashionable Tailor,
Has Removed to No. 28 FIFTH AVENUE,
Second Floor, Entrance No. 26.
A very fine stock and elegant assortment of the latest
Spring Styles of Goods
Opened this week.
All orders promptly filled; garments made in the most fashionable style, unequalled for cut, perfect in fit, and thoroughly made.
SPECIMEN PRICES.—Scotch Pants, $8; American Cassimere Pants, $11; Foreign Cassimere Pants, $12; Black Doeskin, $16; finest Worsted Suits, $35. Other suits according to grade. Only one price. Strictly Cash.
MERCHANT TAILOR,
B. TIEGEL,
NO. 53 SMITHFIELD STREET.
Just received, a Full Line of CLOTHS and CASSIMERES, FOR SPRING WEAR, AT LOWEST PRICES.

REMOVALS.

REMOVAL.
L. H. SMITH & CO.,
HAVE REMOVED TEMPORARILY TO
NO. 51 SIXTH STREET.
Will Open about APRIL 15TH at NO. 49 SIXTH STREET, with the finest assortment of Marbleized Slate Mantels, Furnaces, Ranges, Grates, &c., to be found in the city. 1c
REMOVAL.
THE COMMERCIAL BANKING COMPANY Will remove, about the 15th of April, to the North-west corner of
Smithfield Street and Third Avenue.
ALEX. McFARLAND,
(Formerly with J. B. McFadden & Co.,)
NOW WITH
Charles Terheyden,
136 SMITHFIELD STREET,
Manufacturer and Dealer in FINE JEWELRY, GOLD AND SILVER WATCHES, American and Foreign.
DIAMONDS and PRECIOUS STONES a Specialty.
2MWF

DRY GOODS.

NEW
Dress Goods.
NEW OUTSIDE GARMENTS,
Extra Bargains
NOW ON EXHIBITION.
At $1 30, Good Heavy Black Silk, well worth $1 60.
Finer Qualities of Black Silks at Very Low prices.
Plain and Striped Dress Silks in Desirable Colors, New Trimming Silks, all shades.
At 25c, Diagonal Mohairs, Choice Colors, extra wide.
At 25c, Black Alpacas, a Great Bargain.
At 25c, New Colored Alpacas, Full width.
At 12½c, New Spring Dress Goods.
New Wash Poplins, Plain and Striped.
New Cashmeres and Poplins.
Grey De Beges and Lustres.
Silk Mixed Goods, in great variety.
Mourning Dress Goods of every description.
Children's Dress Goods, full assortment.
DECIDED BARGAINS IN
Black Alpacas & Mohairs,
AT 25c TO $1 00.
New Black Cashmere Walking Jackets, some extra fine.
New Black Silk Walking Jackets, elegantly trimmed.
Ladies' Made-Up Suits, choice goods and styles.
New Spring Shawls, full assortment.
New Mourning Shawls, medium and fine.
Goods for Men and Boys' Wear.
At 37½c, Bargains in Cassimeres.
At 50c, Cassimeres, worth 75c.
Fine Cassimeres, and Cloths, at Low Prices.
Tweeds, Jeans, &c.
Made-Up Suits for Boys,
AT
WM. SEMPLE'S,
165, 167 and 169
FEDERAL STREET, ALLEGHENY
WHOLESALE HOUSE.
HORNE & CO.'S,
Market Street.
NEW GOOD

FINANCE AND TRADE.

THURSDAY EVENING, April 23, 1874.

The prominent topic of conversation in financial circles, to-day, has been the President's veto message of the Senate Finance bill.

While reluctant to withhold his signature from the bill in question, the reasons given by the President are cogent and weighty. The President says:

"The theory, in my belief, is a departure from the true principles of finance, national interest, national obligations to creditors, Congressional promises, party pledges on the part of both political parties and of the personal views and promises made by me in every annual message sent to Congress and in each inaugural address."

It should be remembered that even if current feeling is now in favor of an unlimited issue of government notes, that opinion may change if unfavorable results follow; although a majority of the people may now favor inflation, that same majority, when it feels the unfavorable consequences which follow, may turn and throw off the leaders which it now drives to the support of such measures; business interests may be so affected that opinions will change; the plausible theories of "cheap money" men may not stand the test of another panic.

Inflation of an irredeemable currency may result in another disaster, and repeated disaster must result in political revolution. Although the bill vetoed had the support of a large share of Democratic votes, yet any unfavorable results would have to be borne by the administration.

The great regret is, that uncertainty as to the future hangs over all business interests, and will prevent any revival of activity until there is some settled policy established.

The Senate bill being now out of the question, as it is not probable that its friends can pass it over the veto of the President, the House compromise bill reported January 28, and now before the Senate, comes into prominence. The provisions of this bill are as follows:

SECTION 1. Repeals all reserve requirements as to circulation, but requires bank reserve for deposits.

SEC. 2. Repeals all restrictions on aggregate circulation and section 1 of act of July 12, 1870.

SEC. 3. Provides for assorting and redeeming bank notes through the sub-treasury in New York city.

SEC. 4. Provides for *pro rata* withdrawal of deposited bonds according to withdrawal of circulating notes.

SEC. 5. Requires the charter number of the bank to be stamped by the Treasury on all notes which come in to it.

Judging from the closing sentence of the President's message, it would seem that he would hardly sign a bill of the above character. On the subject of the $44,000,000 reserve the President expresses the most decided views, and any bill legalizing its issue will undoubtedly receive his approval, and it is equally certain that it is his intention to treat that portion of the currency as a reserve, and call it in as rapidly as possible, to be held to meet any contingency which may arise, and not to allow it to enter into the permanent circulation of the country.

The effect on the stock and gold markets has been marked by a heavy decline in gold and a fluctuating stock market. Gold was quoted at one time yesterday at 114¼, and to-day dropped to 112⅝. The following are the opening and closing prices of leading railway shares:

	Opening.	Closing.
New York Central	97½	97½
Erie	35¾	35¾
Lake Shore	73	73¾
Pennsylvania Pittsburgh	85½	85½
Northwestern	47	43
Do. preferred	69¾	70
Rock Island	98½	97
Pacific Mail	41	39½
St. Paul	38	37½
Ohio & Mississippi	25½	24¾
Western Union Telegraph	71¾	69¾
Union Pacific	89	86½
Col., Chic. & Ind. Central	21¼	20¾
Harlem	124½	124

—Our report of yesterday's market by mail is as follows:

During the greater part of the day there was no reliable or trustworthy information from Washington regarding the currency matters. There was scarcely ten minutes during the day in which there were not a dozen reports as to what had been done by the President with reference to the Senate currency bill. Consequently, while awaiting real and positive news, the stock market presented an uncertain, and, at times, wavering appearance, though strong and higher withal, until the close, when, from a downward turn of a half hour previous, the market was rescued by the final announcement that the President had refused to sign it, without very materially influencing matters, was the cause of the upward rise in stocks to the best figures of the day. This movement took the street rather by surprise, for, in view of reasons we have from time to time set forth in our daily letter, it had been supposed that the President would approve the action of the House and Senate. After six months of fruitless tinkering by Congress, the country is in precisely the same condition it was when Congress first convened, and there seems to be no reason for supposing that the next six months will be productive of any better results. Stocks from the twelve-inch vertical, with stripes.....33 00
Oak and yellow pine flooring boards.....45 00

SHINGLE AND LATH.

Shingles, 18-inch, XXX.....6 50
Lath.....4 25

WINES AND LIQUORS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, }
FRIDAY, April 24, 1874. }

Common rectified Whisky.....$ 90@1 00
Proof rectified, old.....1 00 1 50
Monongahela Rye, 1 year old.....1 00 1 50
Monongahela Rye, 2 years old.....1 00 2 50
Monongahela Rye, 3 years old.....1 00 3 25
Monongahela Rye, 4 years old.....1 00 4 00
Pure Rye, "Wheeler & Wilson," 2 years old proof gallon.....2 25
Domestic Brandy, proof gallon.....2 00@3 00
Imported Brandy.....6 00@9 00
Domestic Gin.....1 50 1 75
Holland Gin.....2 00@3 50
B. B. Brandy.....1 00@1 75
Cherry Brandy.....1 50@1 75
Port Wine, "Crown".....2 00@2 50
Sherry Wine, "Vallette".....1 25@2 75
Sherry Wine, "Crown".....1 50@3 00
Sherry Wine, "Harmony".....1 75@2 00
Rum, "New England".....1 50@3 50
Rum, "Jamaica".....3 00@5 00

	Quarts.	Pints.
Champagne, "Chas. Heidsieck"	$27 00	$29 00
Champagne, "Imperial"	16 00	18 00
Champagne, "Gold Seal"	18 00	20 00
Highwines		90@ 1 01

PITTSBURGH WOOL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, }
THURSDAY, April 23, 1874. }

There is very little wool offering, and we quote as follows:

Fine fleece	44@46c	Medium fleece	45@47c
Tub washed	46@47c	Common fleece	43@44c
Combing	48@50c	Pulled wools	38@42c

New York Finance and Trade.

Gold Closed at 112⅝.

NEW YORK, April 23, 1874.

The veto of the Senate Currency bill was the absorbing topic of discussion in financial and business circles to-day, the impression that the President would sign the bill having become very general for some days past the veto naturally caused much excitement. The message created profound sensation on the Stock Exchange, and precipitated great depression in share speculation. In consequence of this there was a great pressure to sell, which carried prices far below any previously made on the present downward movement. Outside of Wall street the feeling is that the defeat of the Senate bill is a blessing.

MONEY

rose to 7 per cent. at one time during the day, but closed at 4a5 per cent.

STERLING

quiet and firm at 485¾a486 for sixty days, and 488¾a488¾ for sight.

GOLD

opened at 113¾, and closed at 112⅝, being the two extremes. Carrying rates flat to 4 per cent., and closed at 2 per cent. Clearings $80,000,000. Customs receipts, $295,000. Treasury disbursements, $75,000.

GOVERNMENT BONDS

closed weak at a slight decline.

U. S. coupons 1881	120¾
5-20s, 1865	119¾
5-20s, 1867	119¾
5-20s, 1868	119¾
5-20s, 1865, new	119¾
10-40's	115¼
6's, currency	116¾

STATE BONDS

quiet and nominal.

Missouri 6s	94¾	Virginia, old	62
Tennessee, old	51	North Carolina, old	34
Tennessee, new	84	North Carolina, new	21
Virginia, new	60		

THE STOCK MARKET.

Railroad bonds quiet in late dealings, with prices a fraction lower. A day of greater depression, without a panic, has hardly ever been known at the Stock Exchange. Prices have had few rallies, and the decline has been large, many stocks being as low as before inflation was talked of, and some of them nearly down to the figures made during the height of the panic, and when the Stock Exchange was closed, and during the last hour of business, the stock market was very unsettled, and feverishness and depression characterized dealings. The lowest quotations of the day were generally made, Northwest common showing a decline of 4¼ per cent. from the highest point; Western Union, Wabash and St. Paul common 2¾a4 per cent.; and Rock Island Northwest preferred, United Pacific, Hannibal and St. Joseph and Pacific Mail 1¾ to 3¾ per cent.; New York Central, Lake Shore, Ohios, Columbus, Chicago and Indiana Central, Delaware, Lackawanna and Western, and Atlantic and Pacific preferred, showed a decline of over one per cent. In final dealings there was a fractional recovery from the lowest prices for the general list. The transactions decrease in values noticed above depleted the margins of many small speculators, and there was consequently a steady enforcing of margins pressed on the market, which operated against any material recovery. The report of speculation is decidedly bearish, more so than for a long time past, and the bull element seems to be completely demoralized, and when there is

CITY MATTERS.

Notice to Subscribers.

Our subscribers in Lawrenceville and vicinity formerly served by John Kane, will please note the fact that the COMMERCIAL will hereafter be delivered by Mr. George Schultz, to whom all payments should be made.

Letters Held for Postage.

APRIL 23, 1874.

	Cents.
Coffee, Mrs., New York	3
Child, Pon., New York	3
Patten & Co., J. L.	1
Patterson & Sowden, Freeport, Pa.	1
Siter, Mrs. M. A., Glen Hope, Pa.	3
Smith, Jacob, Pittsburgh, Pa.	2
Wallace, David, Philadelphia, Pa.	1

E. C. NEGLEY, P. M.

The Oil Production.

We understand that one hundred and thirty prominent producers have signed an agreement to stop pumping oil on Saturday, April 25th, and not to resume for a period of ninety days. If this arrangement is carried out in good faith, it will help the oil market very materially.

Knights of Pythias Officers.

The annual session of the Supreme Lodge of Knights of Pythias was concluded yesterday, when the following officers were elected:

S. S. Davis, of New Hampshire, Supreme Chancellor; D. B. Woolruff, of Georgia, Supreme Vice Chancellor; Joseph Dowdall, of Ohio, Supreme Recording and Corresponding Scribe; John S. Stumpf, of Maryland, Supreme Banker; Hugh Lathum, of Virginia, S. G. C.; C. H. Hodgson, of West Virginia, S. I. S.; W. H. Moyshow, of Tennessee, S. O. S.

List evening a grand banquet was given at the Central Hotel.

The Allegheny Mayoralty.

A number of the friends of the late Mayor Callow have waited upon ex-Sheriff Fleming and asked him to accept a nomination for the unexpired term, with the request that he pay over the fees and emoluments to the family of the deceased. Mr. Fleming, with very commendable generosity, has favorably considered the proposition, but of course his acceptance will depend upon circumstances. If this is the general wish, and there are to be no other candidates, he will, it is thought, consent. A call is now being circulated, asking him to accept the office.

Allegheny Streets.

The Street Committee of Allegheny Councils met last evening when ordinances were ordered for grading and paving Strawberry lane, from Charles to Sarah street; for building a lateral sewer on Longalley from the main sewer to a point one hundred and fifty feet south; for grading Eckert street from Shady avenue to Shady avenue and for grading Vinial street from Troy Hill road to Villa street.

Contracts were let to Martin Joyce, for building a sewer on Brenna Vista street, at $2,121; to Messrs. Wm. T. Dunn & Co., for building sewer on Troy Hill road, at $1,095; to Martin Joyce for building sewer on Allegheny avenue, at $1,227 50; to Evans Bros, for grading Snyder street, at $227 15; to James Orr, for grading, paving and curbing Manhattan street, at $3,342 97; to Arbuthnot, for grading, paving and curbing Strawberry lane, at $4,757 05; and to James Orr, for grading, paving and curbing Haines alley, at $1,626 64. The Street Commissioner was ordered to have repaired the culverts on Wood's run and New Franklin roads.

The committee had also under consideration a profile for a grade on Federal street, from the Suspension bridge to South Diamond street, but the matter was postponed until Thursday evening next, in order that the property holders interested may have an opportunity to examine the profile and express their opinion upon the proposed change.

Proposed Change of Grade on Federal Street, Allegheny.

By reference to the proceedings of the Allegheny Street Committee, given in another column, it will be seen that the committee last night had under consideration a profile, prepared by City Engineer Davis, for changing the grade of Federal street, between the Suspension bridge and South Diamond street. The proposed change calls for a filling on Federal street, between the terminus of the bridge and the Fort Wayne Railroad crossing, such that there shall be a regular and easy ascent from the bridge to the latter point. The filling required will be deepest, about five feet, at a point between Robinson and Irwin streets, and will raise the lowest point of Federal street about one foot above the highest flood mark. On that portion of Manchester lying between the sister city between the railroad crossing and South Diamond street the ascent will be somewhat steeper, but will also be continuous and regular, as the plan calls for about two and a half feet to the hundred, the highest point which is the intersection of Park way.

Numbers of persons consider that such a change of grade on Federal street would improve highly beneficial to Allegheny City, and many experts declare that the grade could be established. These think that the work should be done at once, assigning as one of the strongest reasons of such action the fact that several large and valuable buildings, to face the street, will be erected during the coming summer. The committee postponed the consideration of the subject last night, until property holders and others interested would have time to examine into and opportunity to express their opinions upon it at their meeting on Thursday evening next.

Dedication of Frohsinn Hall.

Last evening a very brilliant and select audience assembled at the new hall of the Frohsinn Society, over the Pittsburgh Gas office, on Sixth avenue, near Grant street, on the occasion of the dedication of their hall. A fine programme, consisting of music and addresses, had been prepared, and about a quarter to nine the active members of the verein arranged themselves on the stage for the ceremony. Mr. Bernhard Bettman followed the dedicatory address, by Mr. Raiber, which was received by the audience with great enthusiasm. The "Dedication Hymn," composed for the occasion by Mr. Carl Retter, was then sung by the verein, which was in full dress by the President, Mr. Brech, followed, in succession, by the Committee of Arrangements, for the leasing and furnishing of the hall, the financial committee, and the future intentions of the society. The Vice President also delivered quite a lengthy and effective address. The second part of the programme was composed of solos by Mrs. Speyerer, Messrs. Brech, Beiz, Bettfitz and Raiber, and a duet, by request, by Miss Theresa Henne and Mr. Benitz, all of which were admirably rendered. The last number, sung by Madame Loheyde was probably the gem of the evening. Several choruses were sung in the second part.

After the programme had been exhausted the chairs in the hall were removed and the members of the society and their friends indulged in the "light fantastic," until an early hour, the music being furnished by the Great Western band. All who had the pleasure of attending this delightful entertainment, expressed themselves highly pleased with the proceedings.

The Frohsinn Society has been in existence twenty-four years, and has probably never been so successful as at present. Of the old original members, only three were present last evening, and none seem to be more rejoiced at the future brilliant prospects than they. The Frohsinn now numbers about one hundred and fifty members, and are the possessor of one of the handsomest, if not the handsomest hall in the city. With the hall are connected a good ladies' room, with all modern conveniences, and a club room second to none in the city. The proportions of the hall are 34 feet from, 72 feet deep and 25 feet from floor to ceiling. It was frescoed by Mr. Adolph Steuber, a member of the society. The society has a lease on this property for five years, and we wish them the most complete success and prosperity for many years to come.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Pittsburgh Opera House.

"Neck and Neck" will be continued through the week, including a matinee to-morrow, and on Monday give place to "Led Astray." The latter play has attracted so much attention of late by its magnificent run in New York and the universally good reports of it in the newspapers, that its production here will be of much moment. Mrs. D. P. Bowers and Mr. J. C. McCullom will both appear; and, with the assistance of Mr. Gotthold and the company, we may confidently expect a rare dramatic treat.

Academy of Music.

The novelty of the Royal Marionette entertainment continues to command considerable crowds to the Academy of Music. It is, without doubt, one of the most entertaining exhibitions ever presented to our people, and fully deserves the abundant success with which it is meeting. The numerous and variety parts of the performance are provocative of much mirth, while there is ever so much to admire in the conception of "Little Red Riding Hood." The scenery in the latter cannot be too highly praised. The best plan is to visit Treasurer McAuley at the Academy box-office during the day, and secure seats.

Trimble's Varieties Theater.

A new bill was given at the Penn avenue varieties theater last evening, for the benefit of the treasurer, Mr. Joseph M. Wilson, in which every member of the company was allotted something good. The house was crowded. The Jackley family grow in favor nightly, and are received with thunders of applause. The entire programme will be gone through with to-night.

Martin's New Variety Theater.

Walter King, Jamie Hinkle, Gus Peters, Mlle. Annetta and the others of Harry Martin's great variety company appeared in fresh acts, all of which were well received by the large crowd present. The programme is a large and rich one, and won from the auditors a great deal of applause. The bill will be repeated to-night.

The Orphans' Fair.

City Hall will continue to be crowded while the fair for the benefit of the orphans is kept up. It is well managed, and all who attend have a good time.

The Last Day of the Great Show.

It should be remembered that this is the last day of the stay of John Robinson's World's Exposition. Those who desire to attend should go either this afternoon or evening. The attendance yesterday, notwithstanding the unfavorable weather, was quite large, the tents being well filled at the two entertainments. One ticket admits to all.

Forepaugh Coming.

On Monday Adam Forepaugh's great Aggregation will appear in East Liberty; on Tuesday at the corner of Penn avenue and Thirty-first streets; on Wednesday in Birmingham; and on Thursday, Friday and Saturday at the Union Skating Park, Allegheny City. Mr. Forepaugh is one of the best managers in the country, and always gives the people the worth of their money. The attachments to the several departments of his show are more numerous and better than ever before.

Library Hall.

Mrs. G. C. Howard and her excellent dramatic company made their first appearance last evening, in Mrs. Stowe's popular drama of "Uncle Tom's Cabin." There was a fair audience, and all seemed very well pleased with the performance throughout. In some of the more striking scenes the applause was hearty and prolonged. It is needless to say that *Topsy* was the central figure, and that her striking delineations of character elicited the highest commendations. Mr. Howard's *St. Clair* was excellent, while little *Eva* was effectively rendered by Florence Newman. *Uncle Tom*, *George Harris*, *Aunt Ophelia*, and the minor characters, were well performed, and altogether the entertainment was highly enjoyable. There is an air of antiquity about this drama, consequent upon the wonderful social and political changes of the past few years; but it is safe to say it can never become obsolete, and which every American citizen ought to witness. Nothing it rightly interpreted can be had for seeing by Mrs. Howard and her troupe. The play will be repeated this evening, and to-morrow afternoon and evening. Seats can be secured at Hale's music store, Smithfield street, for all of these performances.

THE articles of agreement between George Brown, of Halifax, and William Scharff, of the South Side, for a five mile sculling contest and a purse of $2,500 a-side, was signed and sent to Halifax on Wednesday.

IMPORTANT GENERAL BILLS.

The Establishing of New Counties, and the Removal of County Seats.

We give below the text of two general laws—one relating to the creation of new counties, and the other to the removal of county seats—both having been reported from the Committee on Constitutional Reform, and now pending in the Senate:

NEW COUNTIES.

An act for the establishing of new counties in this Commonwealth.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted etc.*, That whenever one thousand of the taxable inhabitants residing in a territory as hereinafter designated and described, from one or more contiguous counties of this Commonwealth, shall present their petition or petitions to the Governor of the Commonwealth, the Secretary and Auditor General thereof, setting forth that the interests and convenience of the people of said territory will be promoted by erecting such territory into a county, and designating a name for said county, said petition or petitions also setting forth that the same will not reduce any county from which such territory or any part thereof is taken to less than four hundred square miles, or less than twenty thousand inhabitants, and that the territory so proposed to be erected into a new county contains an area of not less than four hundred square miles, nor less than twenty thousand inhabitants, nor does any line thereof pass within ten miles of the county seat of any county proposed to be divided by the erection of said new county, it shall be the duty of the Governor, Secretary and Auditor General of the Commonwealth, or a majority of them, shall report to said Governor, Secretary and Auditor General of the Commonwealth, or a majority of them, shall report to said Governor, Secretary and Auditor General of the Commonwealth, or a majority of them, shall report to said Governor, Secretary and Auditor General of the Commonwealth, or a majority of them, shall report to said Governor, Secretary and Auditor General of the Commonwealth, or a majority of them, shall report to said Governor, Secretary and Auditor General of the Commonwealth, or a majority of them, shall report to said Governor, Secretary and Auditor General of the Commonwealth, or a majority of them, immediately after the next general election, a point three discreet and disinterested Commissioners to locate a seat of justice in said new county, whose duty it shall be, after having given notice of the time and place when they will meet in said new county, by publishing the same in all the newspapers published in said new county, if any be published, and if not in the papers of adjoining counties not exceeding three in number, to meet in said county, and after being sworn or affirmed to perform the duties pertaining to their appointment with impartiality and fidelity, to proceed and locate a seat of justice therefor, fix a site for court house and public buildings connected therewith, at not less than four hundred square miles, nor less than twenty thousand inhabitants, nor does any line thereof pass within ten miles of the county seat of any county proposed to be divided by the erection of said new county, it shall be the duty of the Governor, Secretary and Auditor General of the Commonwealth, or a majority of them, to appoint three discreet and disinterested persons as Commissioners, whose duty it shall be, after being sworn or affirmed, to perform the duties pertaining to their appointment with impartiality and fidelity, to view the territory described in said petition or petitions, and the lines thereof, and inquire into the truth of the allegations set forth in said petition or petitions, and report to said Governor, Secretary and Auditor General of the Commonwealth thereon, as they shall find said facts to be.

SEC. 2. If the Commissioners aforesaid, or a majority of them, shall report to said Governor, Secretary and Auditor General of the Commonwealth, or a majority of them, that the facts and allegations set forth in said petition or petitions to be correct and true, it shall be the duty of said Governor forthwith to call an election of the qualified voters of said territory, entitled to vote for representatives, to be held on a day fixed by said Governor, which shall be published for three successive weeks in all the newspapers published in the territory so proposed to be erected into a new county, if any be published there, if not, in the newspapers of the adjoining counties, not exceeding three in number, at which time said qualified voters shall decide by ballot whether said territory shall be erected into a county. The ballots of said election shall be headed "new county," and shall read "for the new county" and "against the new county," and said election shall be held at the places of holding the general elections in the several election districts in said territory, and by the election officers entitled to hold said general elections, and shall be conducted under the laws of this Commonwealth for holding the general elections. The return judges of said election shall meet at such time and place as the Governor shall designate in the call for said election, and make out duplicate certificates of election returns, one of which shall be immediately forwarded to said Governor of the Commonwealth